Natural Resource GIS Program

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

NPS Metadata Tools and Editor Exercise: Viewing Metadata

GOAL: To become familiar with the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor metadata view and display capabilities.

The NPS Metadata Tools and Editor is a metadata management and editing application that implements two separate interfaces for use from within ArcCatalog (v8.3 or v9.x) or as a standalone desktop interface. The application incorporates the functions previously available in the NPS Metadata Tools Extension v1.5.1 for ArcGIS developed by the NPS Midwest Region GIS Support Office. The NPS Metadata Tools and Editor application integrates with the NR-GIS Data Store information system by producing XML metadata based on the NPS Metadata Profile. This XML metadata file can then be uploaded to the NR-GIS Metadata and Data Store application.
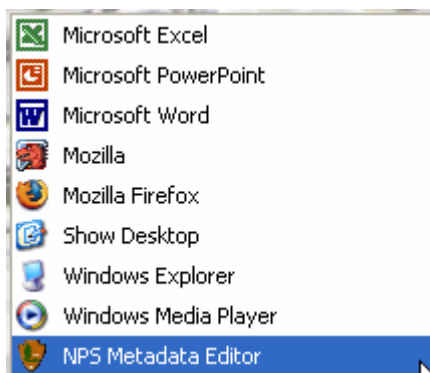
REQUIRED MATERIALS

The following materials are needed to complete this exercise.

1.   The NPS Metadata Tools and Editor application (http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrgis/tools/editor.cfm)

2.   Sample XML metadata files to view (*C:\CLASS\DATA\XML*)

EXERCISE STEPS

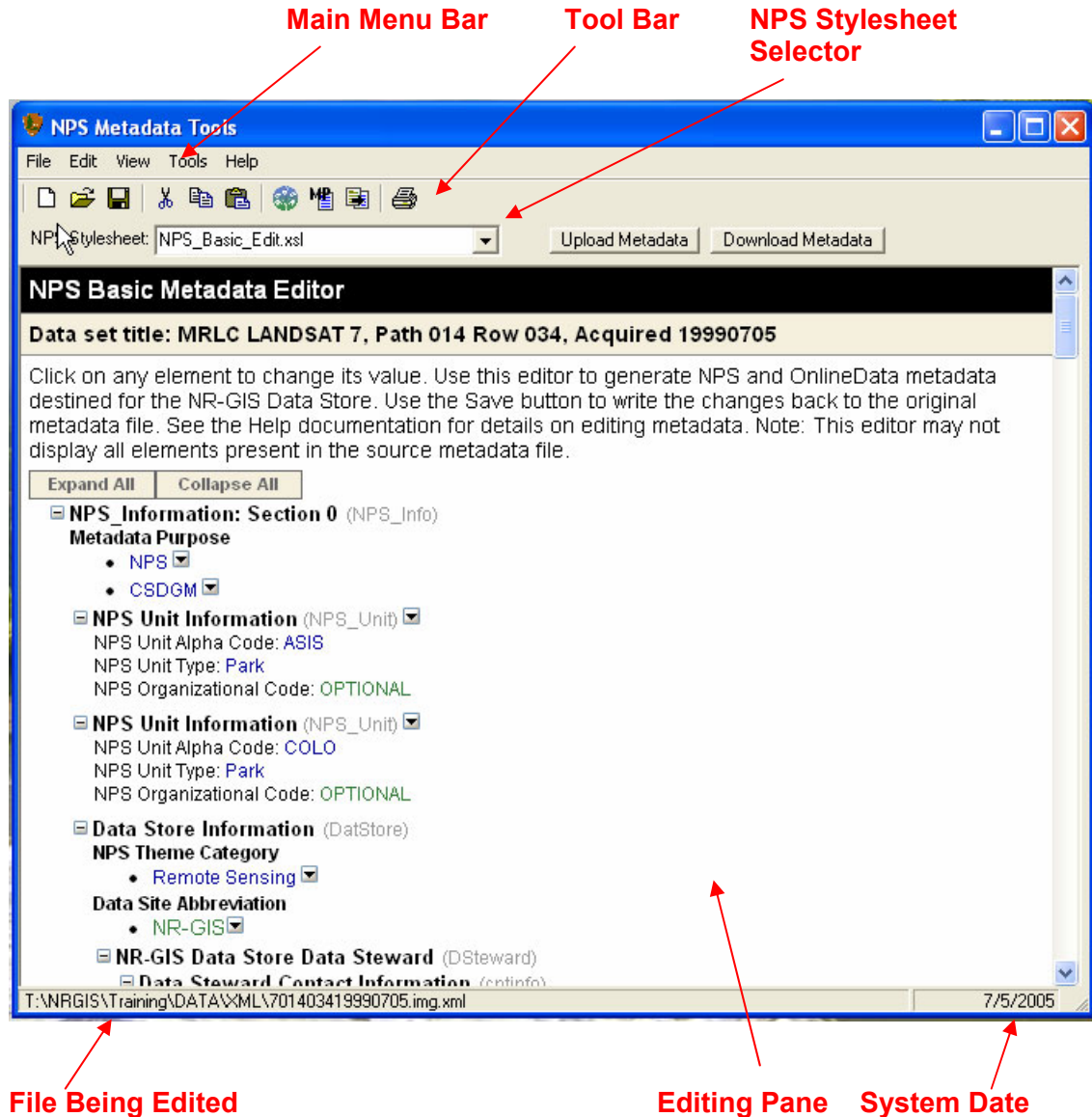### Step 1: Open the stand-alone version of the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor

Select the 'NPS Metadata Editor' item from the Quick Launch menu (if this option was selected upon installation) or use the All Programs option on the Start menu to navigate to the 'NPS Metadata Tools & Editor' group:
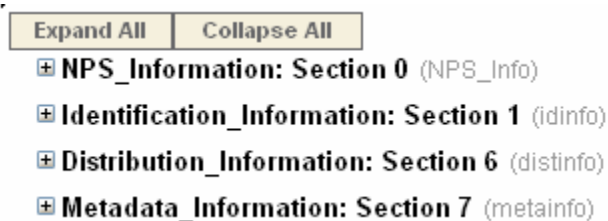
Step 2: Explore the stand-alone interface

Familiarize yourself with the features of the stand-alone version of the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor.

Choose **File → Open** and navigate to the *C:\CLASS\DATA\XML\701403419990705.img.xml* metadata file. Use this record to explore the layout and general features of the stand-alone interface.
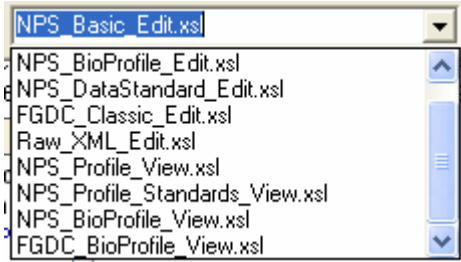

Click the 'Collapse All' button in the editing pane to view the top-level metadata record structure.

Each NPS editing stylesheet allows collapsing or expanding of the entire metadata record. The ⊞ and ⊟ buttons expand or collapse individual metadata sections.

Step 3: View a typical NPS Profile geospatial metadata record

Several viewing stylesheets are included with the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor. When opened, the Tools and Editor NPS stylesheet selector defaults to the **NPS_Basic_Edit** stylesheet.   Viewing stylesheets are identified by the **_View** suffix and are at the bottom of the stylesheet selection list.

Use **File → Open** to open a typical geospatial metadata record containing NPS Profile elements: *C:\CLASS\DATA\XML\morafld.xml*. This record documents geologic folds in Mount Rainier National Park.

Change to the **NPS_Profile_View** stylesheet to see the NPS Profile elements in this record.   Scroll around in the record and view the various NPS and FGDC metadata sections.   Note both the NPS Master Metadata ID and the Data Steward are displayed. This is the same viewing stylesheet used in the secure version of the NR-GIS Data Store. It can be used to double-check edited records for correct NPS_Information section content.

Click the 'Distribution_Information' link to view the download link location of the associated geospatial data.   By default, download links are placed in the Network_Resource_Name element of the Standard_Order_Process/Digital_Form section.

Step 4: Explore a BioProfile metadata record

Three viewing stylesheets display Biological Profile metadata elements: **NPS_Profile_View**, **NPS_BioProfile_View** and **FGDC_BioProfile_View**.   To see differences in their displays, open the *C:\CLASS\DATA\XML\ BUFFHerps_fclBuffHerps.xml* record.   Change between the three viewing stylesheets to investigate the display formats.   **NPS_BioProfile_View** and **FGDC_BioProfile_View** emphasize BioProfile elements with different colors.   (Hint: the BUFFHerps_fclBuffHerps.xml record contains BioProfile elements in Section 1: Identification_Information and Section 2: Data Quality.)

Step 5: View a Data Standard metadata record

The NPS Metadata Tools and Editor allows editing and viewing of data and GIS standards metadata. View an example Natural Resource Database Template (NRDT) standard record by opening *C:\CLASS\DATA\XML\nrdt_conta_24.xml.* Switch to the **NPS_Profile_Standards_View** stylesheet to see the standards process information. Look for the Data/GIS Standards Information section:

Data/GIS Standards Information:
       Standard_Object_Name: NRDT Contacts Standard
       Standard_Type: NRDT

Standards records are regular metadata records with the Standard_Information section populated.

Navigate to the Entity_and_Attribute_Information section. Note the extensive detail obtained from harvesting the entity and attribute details with the Data Dictionary Harvester utility in Dataset Catalog. This harvesting functionality will be ported to the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor stand-alone version.

The entity relationship diagram for the NRDT Contacts Standard is available from the browse graphic link in the Identification_Information section:

Browse_Graphic:
    *Browse_Graphic_File_Name:*http://nrdata.nps.gov/programs/standards/contacts/contact_std_concept_mod.jpg

CONCLUSION

This exercise reviewed the general layout and metadata viewing functions of the NPS Metadata Tools and Editor.

REFERENCES

National Park Service Metadata Profile. http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata/docs/npsprofile.cfm

SOFTWARE REFERENCES

NPS Metadata Tools and Editor. http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrgis/tools/editor.cfm

NR-GIS Data Store. http://science.nature.nps.gov/nrdata